



Arlington Commission for Arts & Culture

Date: Thursday, Feb 3, 2022

Time: 7:00-8:30p

Location: Zoom

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/j/88227793301>

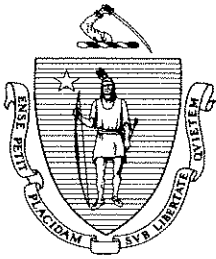
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[Strategic Plan](#) | [Year-Two Operations Plan Revision](#) | [Supplemental Written Program Updates](#)

Agenda

- | | | |
|----|--|-------------|
| 1. | For Approval: January minutes | 7:00p-7:05p |
| 2. | Updates: Youth Banners 2022 | 7:05p-7:15p |
| 3. | Updates: Chanel Thervil | 7:15-7:25p |
| 4. | Discussion: Cultural District/Tour Launch | 7:25-7:40p |
| 5. | Update: Website | 7:40-8:05p |
| 6. | New Business | 8:05-8:30p |

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 3 from 7:00-8:30p



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by "public bodies," as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

WHEREAS, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health ("DPH") have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

WHEREAS, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

WHEREAS section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

NOW THEREFORE, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

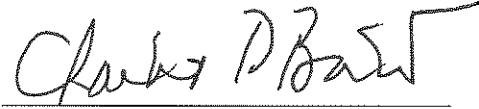
(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 6:40 PM this 12th day of
March, two thousand and twenty.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Charles" is written with a large, prominent "C". The last name "Baker" is written with a large, prominent "B". The signature is written above a horizontal line.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Arlington Commission for Arts & Culture

Date: January 6, 2022

Time: 7:00-8:30PM

Location: Zoom

Minutes

Attending: Steve Poltorzycki, Cristin Canterbury Bagnall, Stewart Ikeda, Lidia Kenig-Scher, Beth Locke, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Nick Castellano, Tom Davison, Christine Noah, Tom Formicola

Absent: Sarah Morgan-Wu, Andrea Nicolay

Guests: Cecily Miller, Terry Holt, Ali Carter

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

1) ROLL CALL AND RULES OF REMOTE MEETINGS CONDUCTED DURING COVID-19

2) APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

- Approved unanimously by all who attended the last meeting with some edits to the attendees.

3) VOLUNTEER EVENT

- On January 31st at 7:30pm on Zoom, a Community Engagement meeting will be devoted to welcoming and orienting new volunteers. Laurie is working on a power point on what ACAC does and the volunteer opportunities.
- 17 people already have asked for the link to participate to date
- Grants Committee will have a slide and will be presenting opportunities too.
- Raising the idea of breakout rooms for specific interests.
- Community engagement is the main emphasis but there are other opportunities to volunteer on committees that support community engagement.
- Also be sure to offer light lift one-day hands-on opportunities that don't require attending meetings.
- An important component of this meeting should be listening.

4) BUDGET UPDATE

- Most business donations are from last year We have not done the business appeal yet which will happen in spring.
- We have nearly \$6,000 out of \$15,000 of our projected business donations.
- We have \$28,368 in previously raised funds.
- We have already raised \$46,000 out of a projected \$50,000 in grants.
- We have already have \$110,909 out of the \$130,00 we expect between our Town allocation of \$30,000 and our fundraising goals.
- DPW contributed \$1,600 to the Climate Futures project that went directly to students and did not go through our books at all.
- ACMI will be donating a video on Chanel Thervil, so it might be a good idea to track in-kind and other contributions in our budget
- Cristin advocates for that not being part of the Treasurer's role.
- Side note: about faulty banner hardware. Ali suggests making a complaint to the Select Board office. DPW does the hanging of banners for multiple organizations.

4) FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- Cecily was just able to procure a \$15,000 grant from New England Foundation for the Arts for the Chanel Thervil Artist-in-Residency project! Huge Kudos and Appreciation!
- Ali says there is way less money floating around in the town this year. ARPA provided small amounts.
- Beth is reminding us that things are tough for the businesses so wants us to know that before we go requesting funds. Beth suggests that any requests we make are aligned with a particular project that has an economic development aspect to it. Those would be more likely to get traction.
- Metrics The Holiday stroll and all its synergies resulted in an increase in participation from 10 to 100 participants between last year and this year. And the Holiday Pop up Market was also extraordinarily successful.
- ACA-organized Open Studios attracted more than 1500 people this year.
- We don't have the funding for a big mural or a series of regular programs in Arlington Center.
- We need to look for synergies that help us to double the value of anything we offer – like a match!

5) ALI CARTER ECONOMIC GROUP Q & A

- There hasn't been a lot of funding thrown at the Heights. One of the first projects was a paint by number mural.
- Ali is trying to think of geographic equity so we want to distribute the efforts.
- While Ali is gone, Jenny is available as a resource.
- Aeronaut does not have the capacity to do a beer garden this summer in the Center this summer but are hopeful for 2023.
- The guy who did the September beer garden at Jason Russell house is looking for permanent space in Arlington but is also planning to return to the Jason Russell House lawn this September.
- Ali said there are no other projects the Town is doing with the State that could be put toward the Arts. The State has put a lot of money into Tourism and has suggested the Cultural Facilities Fund.
- Are there town events that could use funds toward an art component?
- The Shared Spaces program is the only possibility that could cover public art. They covered the parklet work. Ali wants businesses to take those on going forward. There are placemaking projects that get \$50,000 or less, such as a public art project with a traffic calming project or transportation related. They offer this grant three or four times a year.
<https://www.mass.gov/shared-streets-and-spaces-grant-program>
- Is there money from activating park use that could be put toward the arts? Ali says that is going to be a long play. That would take a warrant article, or showing up to a park and rec meeting. The best approach would be to come up with a program in collaboration with the park and rec commission.
- Are there any regulations that might be suspended that could limit busking? Ali says there are no limitations for outdoor gatherings.
- There have been over 100 applications for the ARPA funding. That will be spent in no time. Artists and art non-profits have all applied.
- What is the prognosis on COVID restrictions? Ali has not been involved in those conversations this time around. Boston announced their vaccine mandates for restaurants and gyms. Some businesses in Arlington already have those mandates and are interested. The other kinds of restrictions generally come from the State.

5) STRATEGIC DISCUSSION: How can we increase diversity in our volunteers and commission members

- Adria's Commissioner post will need to be filled
- A reminder to look at the strategic plan and the core values as we think about rounding out the Commission's membership and recruiting for volunteer members.
- We can start with participants in Chanel's project. We are still building our relationships with them. The project is still at the beginning.
- We are looking for more community engagement opportunities.
- Think about the Grants Committee pool.
- Would like to attract someone who has a community presence but not necessarily from the arts, like a business person.

- Maybe a real estate person
- Without Adria, we will be missing the artist's vision and spark and contacts from the field. What does arts and culture do that other organizations don't? We need to be able to offer that spark of imagination. Adria has been able to convince all sorts of people to support and appreciate the arts.
- We need someone with connections outside of town and with regional or State level contacts, and contacts in Greater Boston arts circles. This connects to our sustainability goal and enable us to go after larger funding sources or participate in broader projects, like Art Week.
- Someone involved in non-traditional art forms
- In answer to the question of how inauthentic this process is getting when we talk about recruiting diverse people: should we go organically through people we know, or try to reach beyond our circles? Some suggested it could be a long-term goal, but others talked about being very intentional about who we are reaching out to with an understanding of the importance of diversity to our work.
- Maybe we should look at artforms that are done primarily by people of color.
- Make some direct calls to the ICA or other organizations who may know artists
- Relationships and trust is important. We need to build those relationships comprehensively through marketing, outreach, etc.
- The personal ask is very effective
- Should we talk with Adrian Gill?
- There is value in having people who don't necessarily live in town. They only need to work here.
- We should include a wording of our core value on diversity right in the flyer and include a line that people of all backgrounds are welcome to apply
- Include testimonials from all the Commissioners about the value of working with the Commission.
- There will be another ARPA opportunity coming soon possibly in February or March. Another 750K focused on sustainability, making changes in businesses that will be more long lasting, i.e. a bigger kitchen space, a transportation vehicle, an air filtration system. Think big. There is no cap on the request. It won't be used for a town wide project.

6) NEW BUSINESS

- Annual report is drafted. Please review and let Stewart know of any omissions. Must be in by Monday morning.
- We are anticipating the Fin Comm meeting. We need new testimonial letters.

Meeting adjourned 8:31 pm

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Marlin-Curiel

Next meeting: February 3, 7pm



Arlington Commission for Arts & Culture Updates

February 2022

For the ACAC meeting held online this month, we again anticipate focusing on a shortlist of items in need of voting, or priority discussion of future actions. In keeping with Open Meetings, these notes, [February agenda](#), and "Executive Order on Remote Participation" will be published publicly at least 48-hours before the meeting. We will circulate a Registration Process for the Meeting.

Please feel free to contact the chairs with any clarification or correction, to add any new business, and ESPECIALLY NOTE if any committee item entails a significant budget request, procedural change, or other action that requires a vote.

We acknowledge that the town of Arlington is located on the ancestral lands of the Massachusetts Tribe, the tribe of Indigenous peoples from whom the Colony, Province, and Commonwealth have taken their names. We pay our respects to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusetts Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit historic Massachusetts territories today.

PRELIMINARY TO MEETING

Review this document and add comments, corrections, new business.

Review [last month's Meeting's minutes](#) and be prepared to vote on modification or approval.

All Commissioners review and understand Town's "[Remote Participation Meeting Checklist](#)" and guidelines for Zoom meetings, collected in a Google Drive folder, [ACAC Remote Open Meetings Notes and Guidelines](#).

RESOURCES

[ACAC Bylaws](#) | [ACAC on Town Website](#) | [ACAC Operations Plan](#) | [Strategic Plan](#) | [ACAC 2021 Annual Report](#) | August 2021 Retreat [Whiteboard](#)

COMMITTEE, PROJECT, AND TASK FORCE UPDATES

FY22 Commission Meetings Schedule: First Thursdays at 7PM unless quorum can't be attained. The next meeting is scheduled for **MARCH 3 at 7PM**.

Full Commission: The FY23 Town Manager's budget was submitted to the Select Board on January 14 recommending the ACAC budget at \$35,000. The co-chairs and treasurer have been updating ACAC's presentation in anticipation of being called on by the Finance Committee. [The ACAC 2021 Annual Report](#) was proudly submitted to DPCD.

Arlington Cultural District: The ACD's Cultural District designation is coming up for its 5-year renewal with the MCC; once the Town manager confirms interest in renewing, ACAC has until June 30 to submit its application, to be voted on in August. Core Managing Partners have been meeting to review the District agreement terms, boundaries, Partners roles and opportunities to re-engage returning and new partners post-pandemic. A Marketing task force has convened to plan a formal launch and promotions for the new **ACD Self-Guided Audio Tour**, which is now available as a beta version on [Soundcloud](#), [Google Podcasts](#), and via an [interactive Google Map](#). Anyone interested in participating in the planning is invited to join.

Grants Committee: The GC seeks new Committee Members for three-year terms, meeting the second Monday of every month. Contact accchair@town.arlington.ma.us for information. ACAC co-chairs plan to join the Grants Committee March monthly meeting to discuss collaborative opportunities with the rest of the Commission.

Community Engagement: CE held an informational Zoom meeting on **Monday, January 31, 2022** at 7:30pm for potential volunteers to help with a wide range of programming and promotional activities, on Community Engagement and other committees. ACAC joined the Arlington Human Rights Commission in inviting BIPOC artists to create work on the theme YOUNG PEOPLE LEADING THE NEW CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT for [light pole banners to celebrate Black History Month](#), February 2022. Works were juried by ACAC Artist-in-Residence **Chanel Thervil** and journalist **Crystal Haynes**.

Fundraising: The Fundraising Committee and the ACDCMPs worked to submit a successful application for the FY22 Cultural Districts Initiative Grant from the Mass Cultural Council. They are discussing applying for the MCC Festivals Grant. The Committee is planning now for the Spring appeal.

ArtLinks: ArtLinks Arlington's February event is the opening of its 2nd annual

collaborative member show, *Nature in the Balance*, February 2 on Zoom. Curated by Kristina Goransson, the show features work by ArtLinks members who were inspired by listening to music by cellist **Miranda Henne**. Miranda will debut *Cello Invention* by composer **Flynn Cohen**, exclusively written for her for this event sponsored by the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture. The show is on view in person February 1-28 at the ACA hallway gallery by **advance appointment only** at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44A8A92BA0FEC52-artlinks> due to COVID. The March 2, 7:00 – 8:30pm event will be “The Art of Gardening: Color My Garden”.

VisitArlington: *Visit Arlington Magazine & Community Guide 2021/2022* has launched in print and at visitarlington.org with features prominently spotlighting arts and culture activity in town, including multiple ArtsArlington projects. **Beth Locke** continues to invite distribution and editorial ideas, events to post on the blog, and other assistance.

Marketing: Last month, the ArtsArlington newsletter was scaled back to one regular edition, with additional messaging in advance of the informational volunteer fair. Marketing Coordinator **Terese Holt** has undertaken a significant review and restructuring of several main ArtsArlington.org website sections to archive past year projects, streamline access to those, and prepare to feature upcoming new public art and Cultural District initiatives. A new Google Podcasts page came online as part of the ACD audio tour project, which will be accessible from ArtsArlington.org.